

10/588708

PATENT

81844.0052

Express Mail Label No. EV 691 880 475 U.S.

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 09 AUG 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Toshiaki SASAKI et al.

Serial No: Not assigned

Filed: August 9, 2006

For: Substrate For Thin-Film Solar Cell,  
Method For Producing The Same, And  
Thin-Film Solar Cell Employing It

Art Unit: Not assigned

Examiner: Not assigned

**TRANSMITTAL OF  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

1. ☒ The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application other than a continued prosecution application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).
2. ☐ The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(b), but *before* the mailing date of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, whichever occurs first. A statement specified in §1.97(e) or a fee set forth in §1.17(p) is included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

**§1.97(e) STATEMENT**

I, the person signing below, state:

- ☐ that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

OR

- ☐ that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification

after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

**OR FEE**

- ☐ Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c). (\$180.00). [OR:] Please charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c) (\$180.00) to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this petition is enclosed.

3. ☐ The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(c), but before, or simultaneously with the payment of the issue fee. A statement specified in §1.97(e) and a fee set forth in §1.17(p) are included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).

**§1.97(e) STATEMENT**

I, the person signing below, state:

- ☐ that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

**OR**

- ☐ that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

**AND FEE**

- ☐ Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(d). (\$180.00).
4. ☒ If it should be determined that for any reason either an insufficient fee or an excessive has been paid, please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment necessary to ensure consideration of the information disclosure statement for the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. **A copy of this petition is enclosed.**
5. ☒ A list of 8 reference(s) is in the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

10/588708

PATENT

81844.0052

Express Mail Label No. EV 691 880 475 US

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 09 AUG 2006

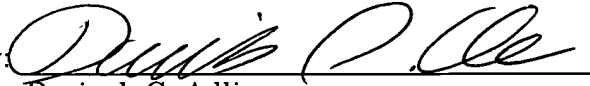
NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE REFERENCES

- ☒ Enclosed is a search report for a counterpart application. The search report Examiner has provided comments on the relevancy of any non-English language references cited in the search report.
- ☐ The specification incorporates comments on the relevancy of Non-English language references.
- ☐ Set forth below are comments provided by the applicant's home country counsel on the relevancy of non-English language references: N/A

Respectfully submitted,  
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: August 9, 2006

Biltmore Tower  
500 South Grand Avenue, Suite 1900  
Los Angeles, CA 90071  
Telephone: (213) 337-6700  
Facsimile: (213) 337-6701

By:   
Dariush G. Adli  
Registration No. 51,386  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

FORM PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

**Docket Number (Optional)**  
81844.0052

**Application Number**  
394588708  
Not assigned

**Applicant**  
Toshiaki SASAKI et al.

**Filing Date**  
August 9, 2006

**Group Art Unit**  
Not assigned

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	WO 00/28603	05/18/00	PCT				
	2001-015787	01/19/01	JP			Abstract	
	2002-141525	05/17/02	JP			Abstract	
	2001-257369	09/21/01	JP			Abstract	
	2000-183376	06/30/00	JP			Abstract	
	11-135817	05/21/99	JP			Abstract	
	06-097475	04/08/94	JP			Abstract	
	2003-243676	08/29/03	JP			Abstract	

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**


**EXAMINER**

**DATE CONSIDERED**

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.